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Amendment

In the Claims

Kindly amend the above application as follows:

Kindly add Claim 99 as follows:

99. An apparatus for providing an automated system of record for processing multivariate negotiations, comprising:

a multivariate negotiations system including storage space, and negotiations software, such negotiations software including an automated negotiations engine for analyzing terms, the analysis of terms comprising understanding the purpose of the terms, formatting the terms according to the purpose, and placing them into user supplied context for use by a user, the multivariate negotiations system being responsive to a destination terminal for a first user communicating with the multivariate negotiations system, the destination terminal including software for sending and receiving terms along a communications path which flows through the multivariate negotiations system, the automated negotiations engine also being responsive to an initiating terminal for a second user communicating with the multivariate negotiations system, the initiating terminal including software for sending and receiving terms along a communications path which flows through the multivariate negotiations system, during iterative processing the automated negotiations engine recognizing the users at the destination terminal and the initiating terminal as negotiators and recognizing one of the users as a deciding entity, such automated negotiations engine further recognizing any changes in the terms and storing in the storage space the terms each terminal proposes, and recognizing the terminal to which proposed terms are being

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sent as the indicated terminal, sending terms to the indicated terminal, the automated

negotiations engine indicating any changes in the terms by storing changed terms in

the storage space until a set of terms is acted upon in a final manner by the deciding

entity.

Kindly add Claim 100 as follows:

100. The apparatus of Claim 99, wherein the storage space further comprises a database

capable of being configured as specified by user-supplied context.

Kindly add Claim 101 as follows:

101. The apparatus of Claim 100, wherein the user-supplied context further comprises

access and configuration data supplied through remote web authoring functions and

sponsored community rules for communities, workgroups, and participants.

Kindly add Claim 102 as follows:

102. The apparatus of Claim 101, wherein the access and configuration data further

comprise media and formatting choices.

Kindly add Claim 103 as follows:

103. The apparatus of Claim 102, wherein the media choices further comprise visual,

print, audio, and audiovisual media.

Kindly add Claim 104 as follows:

104. The apparatus of Claim 103, wherein the formatting choices further comprise a

plurality of display options.

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Kindly add Claim 105 as follows:

105. The apparatus of Claim 104, wherein the display options further comprise the option of showing multiple sets of terms on a display page.

Kindly add Claim 106 as follows:

106. The apparatus of Claim 104, wherein the display options further comprise the option of showing multiple sets of terms on multiple display pages.

Kindly add Claim 107 as follows:

107. The apparatus of Claim 104, wherein the display options further comprise the option of showing non-annotated stored terms to direct attention to changes in terms.

Kindly add Claim 108 as follows:

108. The apparatus of Claim 104, wherein the display options further comprise the option of using annotation to direct attention to changes in terms.

Kindly add Claim 109 as follows:

109. The apparatus of Claim 108, wherein annotation further comprises using highlighting to direct attention to changes in terms.

Kindly add Claim 110 as follows:

110. The apparatus of Claim 108, wherein annotation further comprises using underlining to direct attention to changes in terms.

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116. The apparatus of Claim 102, wherein the formatting choices further comprise configuring the database to direct attention to changes by linking a uniform resource locator to at least one subset of the changed terms.

Kindly add Claim 117 as follows:

117. The apparatus of Claim 102, wherein the formatting choices further comprise configuring the database to direct attention to changes by transmitting a notification to the user, the notification referring to the changed terms.

Kindly add Claim 118 as follows:

118. The apparatus of Claim 102, wherein the formatting choices further comprise configuring the database to direct attention to changes by sending an electronic mail message including the changed terms.

Kindly add Claim 119 as follows:

119. The apparatus of Claim 102, wherein the formatting choices further comprise configuring the database to direct attention to changes by sending an electronic mail message referring to the changed terms.

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Kindly add Claim 120 as follows:

120. A method for providing an automated system of record for at least one negotiation, comprising the steps of :

operating a multivariate negotiations system including storage space and negotiations software, such negotiations software including an automated negotiations engine for analyzing terms, the analysis of terms comprising understanding the purpose of the terms, formatting the terms according to the purpose, and placing them into user supplied context for use by a user, the automated negotiations engine being responsive to a destination terminal for a first user communicating with the multivariate negotiations system, the destination terminal including software for sending and receiving terms along a communications path which flows through the multivariate negotiations system, the automated negotiations engine also being responsive to an initiating terminal for a second user communicating with the multivariate negotiations system, the initiating terminal including software for sending and receiving terms along a communications path which flows through the multivariate negotiations system, during iterative processing the automated negotiations engine recognizing the users at the destination terminal and the initiating terminal as negotiators and recognizing one of the users as a deciding entity, such automated negotiations engine further recognizing any changes in the terms and storing in the storage space the terms each terminal proposes, and recognizing the terminal to which proposed terms are being sent as the indicated terminal, and sending terms to the indicated terminal, the automated negotiations engine indicating any changes in the terms by storing the changed terms in the storage space until a set of terms is acted upon in a final manner by the deciding entity.

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Kindly add Claim 121 as follows:

121. The method of Claim 120, wherein the step of storing changed terms in the storage space further comprises the step of storing the changed terms in a database capable of being configured as specified by user-supplied context.

Kindly add Claim 122 as follows:

122. The method of Claim 121, wherein the step of using user-supplied context further comprises the step of using access and configuration data supplied through remote web authoring functions and sponsored community rules for communities, workgroups, and participants.

Kindly add Claim 123 as follows:

123. The method of Claim 122, wherein the step of using access and configuration data further comprises the step of using media and formatting choices.

Kindly add Claim 124 as follows:

124. The method of Claim 123, wherein the step of using media choices further comprises the step of using visual, print, audio, and audiovisual media choices.

Kindly add Claim 125 as follows:

125. The method of Claim 124, wherein the step of using formatting choices further comprises the step of using a plurality of display options.

Kindly add Claim 126 as follows:

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126. The method of Claim 125, wherein the step of using display options further comprises the step of showing multiple sets of terms on a display page.

Kindly add Claim 127 as follows:

127. The method of Claim 125, wherein the step of using display options further comprises the step of showing multiple sets of terms on multiple display pages.

Kindly add Claim 128 as follows:

128. The method of Claim 125, wherein the step of using display options further comprises the step of showing non-annotated stored terms to direct attention to changes in terms.

Kindly add Claim 129 as follows:

129. The method of Claim 125, wherein the step of using display options further comprises the step of using annotation to direct attention to changes in terms.

Kindly add Claim 130 as follows:

130. The method of Claim 129, wherein the step of using annotation further comprises the step of using highlighting to direct attention to changes in terms.

Kindly add Claim 131 as follows:

131. The method of Claim 129, wherein the step of using annotation further comprises the step of using underlining to direct attention to changes in terms.

Kindly add Claim 132 as follows:

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Kindly add Claim 111 as follows:

111. The apparatus of Claim 108, wherein annotation further comprises using symbols

to direct attention to changes in terms.

Kindly add Claim 112 as follows:

112. The apparatus of Claim 103, wherein the audio media choices further comprise text

to speech options to direct attention to changes in terms.

Kindly add Claim 113 as follows:

113. The apparatus of Claim 102, wherein the formatting choices

further comprise configuring the database to show changes for only a specified subset

of terms.

Kindly add Claim 114 as follows:

114. The apparatus of Claim 102, wherein the formatting choices further comprise

configuring the database to direct attention to changes automatically as negotiations

progress.

Kindly add Claim 115 as follows:

115. The apparatus of Claim 102, wherein the formatting choices further comprise

configuring the database to direct attention to changes only as requested manually by a

user.

Kindly add Claim 116 as follows:

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132. The method of Claim 129, wherein the step of using annotation further comprises the step of using symbols to direct attention to changes in terms.

Kindly add Claim 133 as follows:

133. The method of Claim 124, wherein the step of using audio media choices further comprises the step of using text to speech options to direct attention to changes in terms.

Kindly add Claim 134 as follows:

134. The method of Claim 123, wherein the step of using formatting choices further comprises the step of configuring the database to show changes for only a specified subset of terms.

Kindly add Claim 135 as follows:

135. The method of Claim 123, wherein the step of using formatting choices further comprises the step of configuring the database to direct attention to changes automatically as negotiations progress.

Kindly add Claim 136 as follows:

136. The method of Claim 123, wherein the step of using formatting choices further comprises the step of configuring the database to direct attention to changes only as requested manually by a user.

Kindly add Claim 137 as follows:

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Kindly add Claim 141 as follows:

141. An apparatus for providing an automated system of record for workgroup

negotiations, comprising:

    a sponsor function for supplying an initial set of terms for use by users in a

workgroup, the terms specifying a subject for negotiation; and

    a multivariate negotiations system including storage space, and negotiations

software, such negotiations software including an automated negotiations engine for

analyzing terms, the analysis of terms comprising understanding the purpose of the

terms, formatting the terms according to the purpose, and placing them into user

supplied context for use by a user, the multivariate negotiations system being

responsive to a destination terminal for a first user communicating with the

multivariate negotiations system, the destination terminal including software for

sending and receiving terms along a communications path which flows through the

multivariate negotiations system, the automated negotiations engine also being

responsive to an initiating terminal for a second user communicating with the

multivariate negotiations system, the initiating terminal including software for sending

and receiving terms along a communications path which flows through the

multivariate negotiations system, during iterative processing the automated

negotiations engine recognizing the users at the destination terminal and the initiating

terminal as negotiators and recognizing one of the users as a deciding entity, such

automated negotiations engine further recognizing any changes in the terms and

storing in the storage space the terms each terminal proposes, and recognizing the

terminal to which proposed terms are being sent as the indicated terminal, sending

terms to the indicated terminal, the automated negotiations engine indicating any

changes in the terms by storing changed terms in the storage space until a set of terms is

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acted upon in a final manner by the deciding entity.

Kindly add Claim 142 as follows:

142. The apparatus of Claim 141, wherein the subject for negotiation further comprises a set of standards.

Kindly add Claim 143 as follows:

143. The apparatus of Claim 141, wherein the subject for negotiation further comprises a schedule.

Kindly add Claim 144 as follows:

144. The apparatus of Claim 141, wherein the subject for negotiation further comprises a treaty.

Kindly add Claim 145 as follows:

145. The apparatus of Claim 141, wherein the subject for negotiation further comprises a plan.

Kindly add Claim 146 as follows:

146. The apparatus of Claim 141, wherein the subject for negotiation further comprises an allocation of resources.

Kindly add Claim 147 as follows:

147. The apparatus of Claim 141, wherein the subject for negotiation further comprises an allocation of efforts.

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Kindly add Claim 148 as follows:

148. The apparatus of Claim 141, wherein the subject for negotiation further comprises a contract.

Kindly add Claim 149 as follows:

149. The apparatus of Claim 141, wherein the subject for negotiation further comprises requirements.

Kindly add Claim 150 as follows:

150. The apparatus of Claim 141, wherein the subject for negotiation further comprises a design.

Kindly add Claim 151 as follows:

151. The apparatus of claim 141, wherein user supplied context further comprises duration parameters specifying how long the terms pertaining to a negotiation are to be kept.

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Kindly add Claim 152 as follows:

152. A method for providing an automated system of record for workgroup

negotiations, comprising the steps of :

    supplying an initial set of terms for use by users in a workgroup, the terms

specifying a subject for negotiation; and

    operating a multivariate negotiations system including storage space and

negotiations software, such negotiations software including an automated negotiations

engine for analyzing terms, the analysis of terms comprising understanding the

purpose of the terms, formatting the terms according to the purpose, and placing them

into user supplied context for use by a user, the automated negotiations engine being

responsive to a destination terminal for a first user communicating with the

multivariate negotiations system, the de0stination terminal including software for

sending and receiving terms along a communications path which flows through the

multivariate negotiations system, the automated negotiations engine also being

responsive to an initiating terminal for a second user communicating with the

multivariate negotiations system, the initiating terminal including software for sending

and receiving terms along a communications path which flows through the multivariate

negotiations system, during iterative processing the automated negotiations engine

recognizing the users at the destination terminal and the initiating terminal as

negotiators and recognizing one of the users as a deciding entity, such automated

negotiations engine further recognizing any changes in the terms and storing in the

storage space the terms each terminal proposes, and recognizing the terminal to which

proposed terms are being sent as the indicated terminal, and sending terms to the

indicated terminal, the automated negotiations engine indicating any changes in the

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terms by storing the changed terms in the storage space until a set of terms is acted

upon in a final manner by the deciding entity.

Kindly add Claim 153 as follows:

153. The method of Claim 152, wherein the step of specifying the subject for negotiation

further comprises the step of specifying a set of standards.

Kindly add Claim 154 as follows:

154. The method of Claim 152, wherein the step of specifying a subject for negotiation

further comprises the step of specifying a schedule.

Kindly add Claim 155 as follows:

155. The method of Claim 152, wherein the step of specifying a subject for negotiation

further comprises the step of specifying a treaty.

Kindly add Claim 156 as follows:

156. The method of Claim 152, wherein the step of specifying a subject for negotiation

further comprises the step of specifying a plan.

Kindly add Claim 157 as follows:

157. The method of Claim 152, wherein the step of specifying a subject for negotiation

further comprises the step of specifying an allocation of resources.

Kindly add Claim 158 as follows:

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158. The method of Claim 152, wherein the step of specifying a subject for negotiation further comprises the step of specifying an allocation of efforts.

Kindly add Claim 159 as follows:

159. The method of Claim 152, wherein the step of specifying a subject for negotiation further comprises the step of specifying a contract.

Kindly add Claim 160 as follows:

160. The method of Claim 152, wherein the step of specifying a subject for negotiation further comprises the step of specifying requirements.

Kindly add Claim 161 as follows:

161. The method of Claim 152, wherein the step of specifying a subject for negotiation further comprises the step of specifying a design.

Kindly add Claim 162 as follows:

162. The method of claim 152, wherein the step of using user supplied context further comprises the step of specifying how long the terms pertaining to a negotiation are to be kept.